Ownership rights to tribals residing in West Godavari District

2411. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given an assurance that tribals living for centuries in Sunnalgandi village in West Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh will be given adequate ownership rights;

(b) whether this assurance has been fulfilled;

(c) whether any forest official visited this region;

(d) whether it is a fact that the tribals are not satisfied; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to stop harassment of this section of the tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The status of land under occupation of tribals is under examination by the officers of State Government. As per information received from the State Forest Department, Divisional Forest Officer and concerned staff have been instructed to avoid harassment to the tribals and there is no report so far that the tribals of Sunnalgandi village were harassed.

Congestion in DOT Network in Delhi

2412. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a serious congestion in the DOT network during the busy hours both on the STD and local junction route, particularly in Delhi;

(b) whether this not only results in frustration to the telephone users but also in substantial loss of revenue to DOT/ MTNL; and

(c) if so, whether the DOT and MTNL have identified the routes involved and drawn up urgent plans for reducing the congestion; if so, what are the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, no serious congestion has been observed in the DOT network during normal working hours. However, congestion has been observed during the initial hours of the quarter rate concessional tariff period beginning at 21.00 hrs.

(b) Since the congestion is only for a short period during the night hours, there is no substantial loss of revenue.

(c) Yes, Sir. The congested routes have been identified and as part of planned development of the network, long distance circuits and exchange capacities are being augmented by commissioning of new Transmission Systems and Trunk automatic Exchanges employing state of art technologies.